

# THE POINT

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## Gay/Lesbian Marriage Legal in Massachusetts

**AMY BOBROWSKI**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

With a 4-3 decision on Nov. 18, the Massachusetts Supreme Court decided that the state's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional. Chief Justice Margaret Marshall wrote, "barring an individual from the protections, benefits, and obligations of civil marriage solely because that person would marry a person of the same sex violates the Massachusetts Constitution." However, instead of issuing marriage licenses immediately, the courts gave the legislature 180 days to resolve the matter.

Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney criticized the ruling, saying, "I agree with 3,000 years of recorded history. I disagree with the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts. Marriage is an institution between man and a woman, and our constitution should reflect that."

This and similar comments provoked doubts that the ruling will bring about clear change. "It seems like Romney is going to do everything in his power to strike down this new legislation," said Melissa Seidenberg, president of 1 in 10 and Friends, FSC's club that supports the rights, acceptance,

understanding and education of all FSC students. This organization welcomes members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning identity community (GLBTQI), as well as allies and friends of GLBTQI individuals.

Though Seidenberg is skeptical about the ruling, she said, "It's amazing. We're finally considered equal and not second class citizens."

Shane Franzen, the group's advisor, shares similar feelings regarding the courts decision. "I never thought this was going to happen," he said. "It's nice to see that politics and politicians have caught up with the times."

The ruling declares that the state could not identify any sufficient reason for denying civil marriage to same-sex couples. Banning same-sex marriage, the courts wrote, deprives these individuals "of membership in one of our community's most rewarding and cherished institutions."

However, despite what happens in Mass., same-sex marriages will not be considered equal under federal laws for reasons of taxes, retirement and health benefits, as a result of an act from the Clinton administration. In 1996, Clinton signed the

Defense of Marriage Act that defines marriage for federal purpose as a union between a man and a woman. According to this Act, state governments are not obligated to honor same-sex marriage laws passed in other states.

Regardless of the skepticism or obstacles, 1 in 10 and Friends is clearly feeling a sense of victory. The group held a Game Night in the Ground Zero Game Room on Tues., Nov. 18. In between competitively fun games of table tennis and relaxed games of billiards, the ruling was part of constant conversation. With over 30 people in attendance, the Game Night contributed additional feelings of success.

As with other events and meetings, this function wasn't only for the GLBTQI community. "The people who come aren't all gay," said 1 in 10 member Sarah Barron. "This club is for people who have any interest or support in gay rights."

FSC sophomore, Rebecca George is a member solely because she supports basic individual rights. "I'm straight," said George, "but I believe in human rights. Everyone has the right to be

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## A man called strange

**GARRETT DEMERS**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

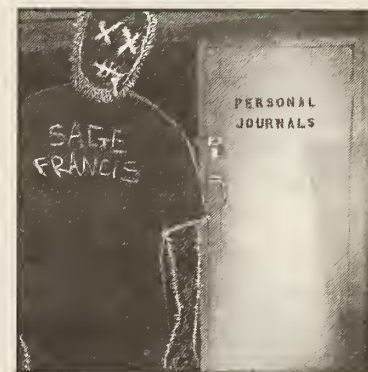
"While emcees were burning 'ism,' I earned degrees in journalism, learning the system and how freedom of speech is worth killing for." In this case the 'ism' refers to marijuana, and the 'I' refers to hip-hop artist and poet Sage Francis, as quoted in his song "That Ain't right."

Much of today's mainstream hip-hop music is littered with misogynistic attitudes, as well as many references to drugs and violence. However, just under the radar of mainstream media lies a vibrant artistic community based around hip-hop.

The founder of Strange Famous records, Providence, RI, native Francis has been making noise in the underground scene since 1996 when his, "Homegrown" demo was released his band Art Official Intelligence.

Since then he has steadily increased his fan base by touring the world several times, winning several freestyle battles, where rappers match wits and word-play against each other, as well as becoming one of the top-ranked slam poets in the world.

Most recently, Francis was signed to a three-album deal with Epitaph Records, a label known mostly for its roster of punk bands. "I feel that independent hip-hop and punk share a lot of the same ethics, and Andy (owner of Epitaph) was willing to give me full con-



[www.southern.com/southern/shop/release-info.cgi?stock=ABR21](http://www.southern.com/southern/shop/release-info.cgi?stock=ABR21)

Sage Francis album cover is named 'Personal Journals,' which includes 18 of his most recent songs

trol over the creative process, which is important to me," Francis said during a recent telephone interview.

Claiming to be straightedge, which means no drinking, drugs, or promiscuous sex, as well as vegetarian, Sage is not your typical idea of a rapper. However, Sage can afford to walk to the beat of a different drum because of his legendary talent. One particularly interesting story involves Francis dressing up in a costume, complete with mullet, and entering Scribble Jam's Emcee Battle in Minneapolis, on the largest in the country.

Unknown to most of the competitors and spectators, Sage proceeded to decimate each opponent with the complex rhyme schemes of his improvised verse, easily winning the competition. It is stories like these that help Sage become one of the best selling indie

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# One on One: The College Dating Game

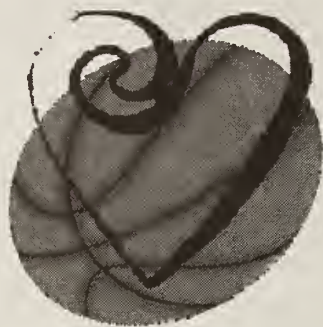
JESSICA BELANGER  
STAFF REPORTER

If you don't have one, you play until you do. If you have one, you constantly struggle to hold on to it. College relationships (traditionally of those between individuals 18-22 years of age) are just like a game of basketball. The double dribbling, the foul play, the shoot and miss, the importance of communication and the constant fear of someone stealing it away, all play a vital role on the players' chance to win this game of love and war.

Entering in a relationship without knowing its dangers is like playing a game of basketball without knowing the rules. You can humiliate or hurt yourself or others or totally miss the point of the game itself.

Couples are not the minority on a college campus even though the sidelines are full of a broad range of singles waiting for the chance to play off the rebound. In fact, the majority of individuals who have visited Counseling Services are either in one or more relationships, or have just left a relationship, said Dr. Robert Hynes, Director of Counseling Services. Although there are so many students involved with one another, many college relationships contain qualities that can prevent or be harmful to personal growth.

These games of one-on-one can be so dangerous because people feel the need to immerse themselves into the relationship at the expense of learning about them-



relationships

selves. "Some students come to campus as freshmen with their boy/girlfriend and get so wrapped in that relationship that they don't take advantage of all the co-curricular activities. They become myopic, and might say, later on, 'There are an awful lot of people I could have met,'" said Hynes.

A study done by Patrick Davies and Michael Windle, a pair of psychologists studying human development, suggested that committed relationships have their good and bad points. Although problem behaviors, such as drinking and partying decrease, people tend to withdraw from the wider peer culture and are more prone to fighting with friends when they are in a relationship.

Amy Bobrowski, a 21 year-old FSC senior, said, "Couples have their own language and their own culture. They live in their own bubble of Coupledness."

This can be dangerous, said Hynes, because "it can stifle personal development." To maintain a healthy relationship, we must respect our partners' right to be their own human beings, said Hynes.

In order to win the game or for the relationship to work, both parties must compromise, make sacrifices, share their thoughts, and feel equally the same about each other. On a college campus, this can be difficult. Temptation is everywhere and jealousy is easily fueled. FSC student, Len Bilodeau said, "If you tolerate jealousy in a relationship, it's not going to go anywhere good."

"Jealousy and possessiveness can complete the recipe for major problems," said Hynes. "This time is supposed to be about growth and discovering yourself. There must be time apart without rage."

A jealous person plays the position of guard. They try to steal the ball of control and keep you from scoring. They keep you from your teammates or friends and insist that you be watched constantly. Although this defensive guard would be extremely effective in a basketball game, this player is denying you the right to enjoy and discover yourself.

"If you talk to a happily married couple, they will tell you, 'yeah, we love each other, but we each have the opportunity to do our own thing,'" said Hynes.

Bobrowski, a NJ native, started a new relationship this June back home. Now with the summer past, she's maintaining a long distance relationship while she finishes her senior year. For most college students, proximity might have posed a problem, but Bobrowski said, "Coming back to school, I knew the dis-

tance would either make us or break us as a couple because if we couldn't handle it, we were not meant to be. The fact that we're still together, despite the distance, just shows how much we care about each other."

"This time apart gives us each a chance to pursue and maintain our own interests and it makes the time we do spend together all the more enjoyable," said Bobrowski.

Although Bobrowski has her happy ending, where does this leave the rest of the college population? Is "Coupledness" really all that it is made out to be? Many single individuals have mixed feelings.

Bilodeau, an experienced college go-getter and recently single, has a more pessimistic view of relationships. "Whoever is least loving in a relationship has more control. Relationships don't work because we live a culture which teaches us that to be takers and self-centeredness is just basic human nature," he said.

Hynes said this power struggle stems from our consumer culture. In a supply and demand world, individuals often weigh how much they put into a relationship against how much their partner puts in. Analyzing the "commodities" we can get from our partner undermines the purpose of the relationship itself.

In a game of basketball, "Do you dribble to the hoop or do you pass," asked Hynes. "Everyone likes to be the leading scorer, and it's the same with the control in a relationship."

Although there's not much glory in making a pass, sometimes for a relationship you need to make that pass rather than hog control," said Hynes. "Like basketball, you need to do what's best for the team or the relationship."

"And sometimes you sit," added Hynes. But are all the benchwarmers just waiting for the chance to play? Do all the singles want to involve themselves in a relationship? FSC junior, Fay Lewis said, "Many college students prefer being single until they are single for a while; then they yearn for the attention again and the sense of security."

However, Dr. Hynes disagrees. "The vast majority of students feel that if they're single, they're missing out. There is a basic fundamental need for intimacy. Unfortunately most college students see the only way to have intimacy is to be romantically or sexually involved. Our culture has moved to this position and there is almost a pressure for people to be involved. It leads to poor decision making," he said.

The most important thing when playing the relationship game is to realize when you're being taken advantage of. Call your own foul, suggested Hynes. "Don't always rely on the referees, or your friends," said Hynes. "Refs don't pick up on everything. Be your own referee and take corrective action." After all, whether it's to the heart or the body, you wouldn't want to miss the next big game because of injury.

-Amy Bobrowski contributed to this article.

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The Point considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length.

All articles must be typed or legibly handwritten and include a name and a phone number, in case of questions.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times, and a contact person.

The content of any article labeled Opinion, does not necessarily represent the views of The Point, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

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# What's the problem with same sex marriages?

**JEAN LEVASSEUR**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

So, the Supreme Court has finally declared that gay and lesbian marriages are constitutional. In the day and age that we live in, I say it's about time. After all, there are a great deal of homosexual people living in this state, and country. They live together, sharing a relationship equal to that of any husband and wife.

Isn't one of the found beliefs of this country that people have the right to be happy? Obviously, there are restrictions to that. For example, if murdering people or stealing makes you happy, then that's tough. If you are going to hurt someone in some way in order to be happy, then you are out of luck. But if you are not actually hurting anyone, then who has the authority to stop you from being happy?

As near as I can tell, homosexual marriages hurt no one, especially not the straight people that take offense to this sort of union. I don't understand why straight people have an opinion on gay marriages. It affects them in no way whatsoever.

There are many reasons that people say that gay marriages are wrong. Most use religion as the biggest reason. "God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve!" Oh, that's original, really clever. Really, the person that thought that little saying up should be famous. Or maybe go hide in a cave somewhere and never speak again. That has nothing to do with anything!



You need a man and a woman to make more people. That is why God created Adam and Eve. If you don't want to have kids, then you don't have to worry about that.

I happen to know a lesbian couple very well. I will not mention their names due to the natural prejudice that exists against gays, but let me assure you that they are quite happy together. Not only that, but it seems to me that they are very blessed and living good lives.

For those of you that use God as a reason to avoid gay marriage, doesn't it make sense that God would not bless them? Maybe he wouldn't punish them if they were committing a mortal sin, but wouldn't he try to show them the light, being a loving God and all? Instead, he appears to be blessing these two left and right. They are very happy together, much happier than many straight couples that I know.

Then there are the people that claim that gay people are simply confused and don't know what they want out of life. My friends know exactly what it is that they want out of life. They want each other. They are in love, and there is nothing that any straight person can do about it.

They didn't choose to be

gay, any more than I chose to be straight. It is just the way they are. Engaging in a heterosexual relationship would not make them see the light. They would find a heterosexual relationship just as uncomfortable as a straight person would find a homosexual relationship.

I have been confused about why straight people are so offended by the idea of gay unions, and especially gay marriage. I think that I have a theory. People are ignorant and cannot accept any ideas that are not their own. This is not an insult, this is a generalization.

People cannot believe that other people are so stubborn as to believe something else. Other people's beliefs are a challenge to our own, and we as people don't like our beliefs challenged. It makes us feel safer. So, we get upset and angry when people practice beliefs that are not necessarily what we think is right.

Another theory about gay marriage specifically that I have is that people are insecure about their own marriages. They feel that the sanctity of their own marriages if people can marry people of the same sex is compromised.

However, that is not the case. A straight person's marriage is just as special as it was before. Again, gay marriages affect straight people in no way whatsoever. Gay people just want to be happy. Marriage is simply a word, but the idea behind that word is so much deeper.

## Are students proud of their school bands?

**JEAN LEVASSEUR**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

American Pie mad fun of it. Most schools have it. Few students are proud of it. The members wouldn't be happy without it.

Band is a vital part of any school, but few people in the school know much about them, other than the members of the band themselves. But the band is a fascinating group, a group beneath the surface of the student bodies notice. The members of the band are an elite group of close friends with their own culture, complete with government, traditions, customs, and stories. The band at Marlborough High School is no different.

The band has a definite hierarchy that is rarely questioned. The Lord and master of the entire band is the director, Mr. Gary Piazza. He has the complete control and

respect and every member of the band. "We joke around with him all the time, but in the end, he tells us what to do and how to do it," said Alexandra Hanson, one of the drum majors of the Marlborough High School.

Following in power are the drum majors, the students picked to conduct the band. Then comes the power of the senior members of the band, who are also the section leaders. Everyone else than falls into order by grade, with the eighth graders being at the bottom of the pile. "Eighth graders are like slave labor," says Evan Steiner, the section leader of the trumpet section. "We sit back and delegate responsibility to those below us, and people below us designate responsibility to the eighth graders. Basically, they get shafted."

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**off the mark**

by Mark Parisi

www.offthemark.com





# FSC sends teams to national court competition

**Fitchburg, MA** - Five teams of students from FSC will travel to the national undergraduate competition sponsored by the American Collegiate Moot Court Association at the Honors College of the University of Texas at Arlington in January. The students qualified for the national event at the Eastern Regional Tournament held last month at Fitchburg State.

This marks the third year the college has sent teams to the national competition. Thus far, they have returned home with runner-up honors and two other top 10 showings.

The effort is organized by Political Science Professor Paul Weizer, who prepares the teams with assistance from local lawyers Keith Glenny and Beth Walsh.

In moot court competi-

tion, students give 20-minute arguments on a legal case, then are evaluated by lawyers, professors and judges. They are rated on knowledge of subject matter, responses to questions from the bench, and courtroom skills. Participating schools enter two person teams who are required to present oral arguments in two preliminary rounds, arguing each side of the hypothetical case. The eight highest scoring teams advance to the quarter, semifinal, and final rounds the following day. Students are judged on knowledge of subject matter, response to questioning, forensic skills, and courtroom demeanor.

The hypothetical case for this tournament will be the DeNolf vs. Olympus State University, which addresses

the issues of the campus sex crimes prevention act, the privacy rights of convicted sex offenders in a college community, and due process rights of the offenders regarding a hearing to determine "future dangerousness." It is the same case that was argued at the regional competition.

Fitchburg State students participating in this year's competition are: Lauren McGuirk of Leominster, Keith Greiner of Worcester, Ann Lyons of Hubbardston, Nicole Bourdelais of Dracut, Melanie Pfaffinger of Marshfield, Daniel Maloney of Adams, Gina McLeod of Petersburg, VA, Sarah Pecorelli of Pepperell, Jennifer Kurtinitis of Pittsfield and Jessica Oltman of Lunenburg.

## Sage the strange man

artists in the world.

Francis is probably best known for his politically fueled song, "Makeshift Patriot." Recorded one month after September 11 attacks, the song criticized the media for its portrayal of the tragedies, and questioned the motives behind the attack, something that not many other artists have done.

"The media was feeding into the fear of America, and they broke just about every rule I learned in my journalism studies," said Francis, who earned a degree in journalism from the University of Rhode Island.

One line from this song, "An addictive twenty-four hour candle light vigil in TVs. Freedom will be defended at the cost of civil liberties. Viewers are glued to television screens, Stuck...cause a lot of

things seems to sick, I use opportunities to pluck heart strings for theme music."

In recent years, Francis says, he has become less involved with the hip-hop community and has focused more on poetry. "The first year I attended the National Poetry Slam, I was overwhelmed by all the talent. I was thrilled to realize all these great writers and performers gathered together for the sake of their art."

However, he doesn't see himself abandoning hip hop all together, "I intend on getting my ideas and views out to as many people as possible, and hip hop certainly helps me to do that."

True to that statement, Sage and longtime collaborator Joey Beats, who play together as the Non-Prophets, released an album titled "HOPE." He

describes it as, "traditional hip-hop, updated with current ideas and viewpoints." He explained this album, will help to polarize his fan base, rather than alienating people with some of his more eclectic offerings.

"I will not be satisfied until I see an older audience at my shows, which will tell me that I have crossed over." Sage can be likened to songwriters such as Bob Dylan and Neil Young, under the guise of hip-hop, his offerings range from the introspective and emotional, to the goofy, to the political edge of songs like "Makeshift Patriot." Certainly Sage will be a name to watch for in the future. For more information on this man and his work, check out [www.non-prophets.com](http://www.non-prophets.com).

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## School bands?

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Every band is full of traditions that have been passed down from band generation to generation. The Marlborough High Band was full of them. "Every year at band camp, a few kids would try to dump the water jug on Mr. Piazza," said Sarah Blake, the other drum major of the marching band. "They never catch him though. That little man is quick." Other traditions included throwing everyone in the band into the pool at the after camp party, whether clothed or not, bringing pixie sticks to every football game, changing in the band room, soloing to harmonized versions of nursery rhyme songs, and playing cards at graduation.

And no band would be complete without a heartwarming, hilarious, or humiliating story that happened so long ago that no one remembers the kids that it happened to, because they graduated so many years before. Steiner tells a great rendition of the kid who got left behind at a game. "It was great. They were at a game against Gardner, and the year before a riot had broken out. Tensions were high, and Mr. Piazza wanted to make sure that everyone made it home okay. At away games, kids used to be able to leave with their parents, so Dave Ferra

asked Mr. Piazza if he could go with his parents. Mr. P said yes, and Dave went to find his parents, while Mr. P got everyone on the bus. Unfortunately, Dave's parents had already left, and apparently he got back to the buses in time to see them disappearing around the bend. So here he was, this little eighth grader stuck in an area that he considered hostile, with his band clothes on that proudly said Marlborough on them. He worked up the courage to go talk to this kid in the other band, who agreed to give him a ride home.

Meanwhile, the parents were frantic, and furious with Mr. Piazza. Well, finally this kid got home alright, but Mr. P has never again let a kid leave with his parents. And every time anyone asks, he tells that story. He does better job that I do."

Stories are being made every year. One that the students think will live on from this year is the time that the bus left without Mr. Piazza. But one thing is for sure, band kids love their friends and lives as members of the band. "I feel bad for those people that laugh at us for being in the band," Hanson said. "I am willing to bet that we have way more fun than they do on the football team."



Happy  
Holidays

from the Point staff



# NAHB flies off to Vegas

**DAN DESMOND**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

"Vegas...I'm pumped!" Those words eloquently express how excited Adam Schleyer, a construction-management major, is about the upcoming Las Vegas trip from Jan.19-22, 2004 for the college's National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) club. However, taking in the sights and hitting the slots isn't the main concern of this club's journey; its main concern is the National Home Builders Convention.

George Bush Senior is going to be a keynote speaker at the grand opening of the convention. The former president will discuss the importance of having an organization such as NAHB to help pass knowledge around the country for the

good of all homebuilders.

The trip is partially funded by two private backers who are members of the National Association of Home Builders. Each of these backers paid \$1850, which was a little more than half of the bill, allowing students to go at \$225 a person. Seven students and one faculty member plan to attend the convention. Schleyer is thankful, and says, "because of their generous contributions we can now go to Vegas, whereas before hand we weren't able to go."

The national Association of Home Builders is a group that helps student network, learn new technologies and methods, as well as keeping the students involved with the

school. This club helps students talk with other students as well as professionals helping them become overall more knowledgeable in their field.

Helping homebuilders since 1942, the NAHB educates the building society how to use the latest methods and tools to become better, more effective builders. Representing 211,000 residential homes and remodeling members, and 800 state and local builders the NAHB is the construction voice of the country.

Adam's hotel is a twenty-minute walk from the heart of the strip, and he is surprisingly just as excited about the convention as he is going to Las Vegas itself.

## Legalization of same sex marriages

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happy and to love." George has been involved in equal rights groups since high school. She's participated in Youth Pride Marches in Boston to show her support.

The club brought James Dale to campus last year, the gay Eagle Scout barred from the Boy Scouts because of his sexuality. They have visited New York City and seen "Rent" on Broadway. The group also holds regular social events.

In the past, 1 in 10 and Friends sponsored the Safe Zone project which they will continue this year. The organization will distribute stickers with symbols on them. Students, faculty and staff can post these stickers on their

doors to "make it known that no matter what kind of problem you have, these people are accepting of your sexuality," said Seidenberg.

In addition to the Safe Zone project, 1 in 10 and Friends looks forward to hosting a film festival and a fundraising raffle with Polaroid during the spring semester. The group meets on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. in the Alumni C room.

New member, Tim Brown feels very welcomed with 1 in 10 and Friends. "It's great to have this kind of organization on campus to support equal rights," said Brown. "This is the way it should have been to begin with."



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# Alcohol Task Force with Dean Simons

**JEAN LEVASSEUR**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

Fitchburg State College is taking up the Massachusetts Statewide University and College Coalition on Underage and Problem Drinking Action Plan. This plan, put into effect last October, is supposed to help combat underage and binge drinking on college campuses. Fitchburg, already percent compliant with the standards of the action plan, hopes to be 100 percent compliant over the next two years.

In order to meet this goal, President Rivard appointed Dean Kathleen Simons to be the head of a new Alcohol Task Force. This task force is made up of 7 committee members, each of which is the head of a smaller sub-committee. The Task Force meets occasionally throughout the semester, trying to think of ways to stop the binge drinking and underage consumption of alcohol that occurs on campus.

"Safety is out number one concern for the students" said Simons in an interview last Tuesday. "When students are under the influence,

they make bad choices." One of the ways that the Task Force is trying to help the problem is by setting up the Alcohol Intoxication Transport Group.

This group is called when a person seems dangerously intoxicated. They assess the situation, and then make one of three choices; escort the person home if they are going to be all right, take them to the hospital if not, or take them into custody if they are underage or in some way acting illegally.

Another step that the Task Force has taken is setting up the Advisory Board Committee. This committee, consisting of police officers, citizens, students, and faculty, have set up several stings on campus, trying to cut down on the number of people selling alcohol illegally to minors. This committee, chaired by Chief of Campus Police Brian McClullough, has taken steps to cut back on all illegal consumption of alcohol.

Other committees that have been established by the Task force are the Committee of Policy Development and Dissemination, chaired by

Sue Lauder, Education and Assessment, Kristen Rowe, Programming and Promotion, Tulio Nieman, Student Training, Martha Favre and Robert Heins, the Committee for Staff Training, chaired by Kathleen Simons. Tara Mansello is also on the Task Force.

The Task Force was established after a study done about college drinking back in 1999 and 2001 that Fitchburg State was chosen to participate in. This study, conducted by Henry Wechsler, was supposed to find out how well schools were complying with the new, at the time, Board of Higher Education mandate about alcohol consumption in colleges. FSC was one of eleven schools to participate in the study, and was found to be below the national average when it came to student consumption of alcohol. President Rivard was invited to have Fitchburg State join Coalition on Underage Drinking, along with many other schools in the state, including WPI, Northeastern, U-mass Lowell, and Holy Cross.

# Guild Build Dancers struts through Lunenburg

**NATHAN AHOKAS**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

For the past 23 years, people ranging in age from young children to adults have been coming together in Lunenburg to share their passion for dance, and their joy in community and friendship. This group is known as the Guild Dancers.

The Guild Build Dancers put on performances each featuring music and athletic dancers. The performances attract enormous crowds every year.

"The performances are absolutely amazing," says one of the young students in the Guild. Before she began dancing for the group, she said she always made sure that every year she got to see the performance.

"I made sure I had a front row seat every year," the student says.

Every year, September is the month when classes begin at a place in Lunenburg known as "The Barn." Located on route 2A, this facility houses the group led by Martha Lane Brown, a longtime Lunenburg resident. Browne has a bachelor's degree in modern dance choreograph and has been involved with modern dance nearly her entire life. Back in 1981, she began her non-profit organization in the attempt to create more of an awareness of modern dance.

"Not too many people knew what modern dance was at the time," Browne explains.

In September, Browne offers approximately eight different classes for ages ranging from elementary school all the way to adults. The dancers get together once a week to practice their tech-

nique and different routines.

"Classes in the fall are mostly to teach the students some technique and help them become familiar with modern dance," explains Browne.

After a month break at Christmas time, the classes begin again in January to prepare for the performance in June.

Although the Guild Dancers is mostly known throughout Worcester County for its modern dance performances, what makes this group so special is something that most outsiders may miss at first glance, Browne says.

She says, "One of the great characteristics of the Guild Dancers is the overall sense of community and friendship. Browne consistently stresses that the dancers work together and help each other not only with dance, but in the real world as well.

"Holding hands and sticking together. I stress that to the student because that is what our world needs more of, in my opinion," Browne says.

Volunteers consisting of friends of the Guild and parent of the student dedicate their time every year to assisting the Guild come performance time.

As a non-profit organization, the Guild Dancers is one group that truly exemplifies the meaning of commitment and love.

"If I was doing this for the money, I never would have began teaching 23 years ago," explains Martha. "I love teaching dance and I love the camaraderie and feelings of community that our organization creates."

Anyone interested in joining the Guild Dancer can call (978)582-7758.

**\*Spring Break\*Spring Break\*Spring Break\***

Spring Break 2004. Travel with STS  
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# POETS CREATIONS

## Student Art Showcase

### Robots

Keith Troester

When do we decide  
Not to line up  
As if we are robots  
Designed to rot?  
Simply for the sake  
Is not good enough.  
Isn't tomorrow  
One more day  
Or are we focused  
On just today?  
What is it like  
To let someone  
Think for you?  
Its ease should tell you  
That it's not really you,  
But simply a formula  
With ingredients  
Too solid to bear.

### This Life of Mine

Brian J. McGrady

This life of mine is never ending,  
The pain, the love, the fire.  
The flowing river ever bending,  
SHows clear where I expire.  
The river ever flowing down,  
Into the great blue sea.  
Into the place where I must drown,  
For all I've done to thee.  
I love thee more than all the world,  
Yet I do the worst of things.  
I hurt thee with my tongue unfurled,  
And know it really stings.

Why do I do these evil deeds,  
So many that were once good.  
And hurt you and friends to serve my  
needs,  
Needs that are misunderstood.  
I feel I've done so much so wrong,  
In such a short span of time.  
I know now I really don't belong,  
For all of my evil crime.  
Though done not on purpose or for stance,  
I've hurt them and still more thee.  
I hope that you give me one more chance,  
For you are most dear to me.

I'm sorry.

Interested in publishing your  
poems? Send submissions to  
[Point@fsc.edu](mailto:Point@fsc.edu)

### Poor Virgin

Jessica Belanger

Lost you are in your thoughts,  
But not alone, that's for sure.  
Don't you fear, for I am near.  
And soon I'll take you away from here.

No time left to vegetate, you should shift  
too.  
The garden must elevate with or without  
you.  
Now go and grow, your plot's been chosen.  
For the winter snow may leave you frozen.

Last chance you little seed,  
For you my friend will never bleed,  
Never ache or yearn for love.  
And given all you've got and more,  
I'd break your stem just to score.

### Unknown

Jessica Belanger

Your kiss is my weakness  
I can't bear to miss a kiss  
and when I've perched upon your lips  
emotions flow for your soft touch is upon my skin  
my toes lift in midair  
only to allow myself to go  
my palms begin to flare  
for my finger tips sensor you, so  
a sensation felt at your demand  
your kiss is in your hands  
don't deprive me of my high  
don't ever make me say goodbye-  
to your kiss



# The man behind the curtain in athletics

**JESSICA BELANGER**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

If you are a devoted Fitchburg State Falcon sports fan, you most likely would find his face familiar. If you are a Falcon athlete, you probably would know him by name. If you work on the contest management staff, chances are, he is your boss.

And, if you do not fall under any of the previous categories, but you are a Chartwell's lunch regular, you've certainly seen him around the dining commons without even knowing it. Who is this man? None other than Rusty Eggen, who has been the assistant athletics director and sports information director at FSC for the past five years and running.

Pete Egbert, the FSC Athletic Equipment Manager and head basketball coach, stated, "I refer to Rusty as the Mayor, the guy that knows everybody. He has his hands in everything because that's the nature of his position." But Eggen says his experiences working



Fitchburg State's Recreational Center is where you can find Rusty Eggen hard at work.

[http://denali.fsc.edu/image\\_cat/index.cfm](http://denali.fsc.edu/image_cat/index.cfm)

with the athletics keep him young. "Physically, I'm 40; logically I'm 30, but mentally, being around all the athletes makes me feel like a kid again, and that's what matters," Eggen stated.

While athletes keep Eggen young, what really matters is that Eggen keeps his operation rolling like a fine tuned pitching machine; a consistent flow of scheduling, contracting, hiring, assigning, managing, maintaining and updating that in reality make the actual Falcon homeruns possible.

Egbert said, "Rusty's position is unique because he gets to see everything done from start to finish." Together with the rest of the athletics

staff, Eggen works to make the college games run as smoothly as possible. But when Eggen states, "I get paid to go watch a game; it doesn't get any better than that," he is asserting and understatement.

It is not only what he does at the game, but also his involvement behind the scenes before and after the games that plays a vital role in making the actual events possible.

"Rusty is the trigger guy of the department; he is the guy that makes everything happen," Egbert stated. How does he make everything happen? First off, before the roster is even made, Eggen sets up the game schedule for each team a year in

advance. That means that he must contact the opposing teams and come to an agreement on dates and times.

While the athletes are in training, Eggen is also in charge of setting up the contracting and scheduling for away-game transportation for all the Falcon teams throughout the year. Along with worrying about away game buses and vans, he also hires, assigns, and schedules the student event staff to work the home games that he also manages, making sure that everything is in place and everything goes according to plan.

The head secretary for athletics, Melanie Gauthier, knows from experience, "If you ask Rusty a question that has anything to do with numbers, he pops out an answer like a computer."

But that's not all. Along with his responsibilities as Assistant Director of Athletics, Eggen also takes on the role of the Sports Information Director. Eggen is responsible for making sure that all the rosters, box

scores, and game statistics are recorded correctly and accurately. He then takes that information and updates what he calls "the beast of all beasts," the college website.

"At home I have a fully functioning office, so to avoid spending extra hours at the office, I can do it on my own time" Eggen states. In addition to keeping track of the records, he also calls in the scores after each individual game to the newspapers so the highlights will be printed in the morning.

Melanie Gauthier stated, "Working with Rusty is like working with a whirlwind because he has got so many things going on at once." Eggen's personality enables him to function under what other may view as extreme stress and strain in order to balance the many hats that he wears. But when asked which season he prefers, Eggen stated, "Every season is different. Once I get bored, I move on to the next. I lack the attention span to focus on more than three months at a time. That's why this job is perfect for me."

## FINALS FRENZY

**Afternoon 1-3 pm**

**Wednesday, December 10**

**Thursday, December 11**

**Counseling Services - Chipwiches**

**Friday, December 12**

**Student Affairs - Coffee, cookies, hot chocolate**

**Sunday, December 14**

**Monday, December 15**

**Dean of Students - Coffee, cookies, hot chocolate**

**Tuesday, December 16**

**Night 8-10 pm**

**Treasure's Office - P.B.J Sandwiches  
Campus Center - Ice Cream Sundaes  
Misty Glenn Massages**

**Campus Center - Hot Dogs & Hamburgers  
Programs - Big Wheel Races**

**Campus Living - Pizza**

**President's Office - Root Beer Floats**

**Campus Police - Bagelmania**



# The men and women keeping FSC in order

**LIZ CARROLL  
STAFF REPORTER**

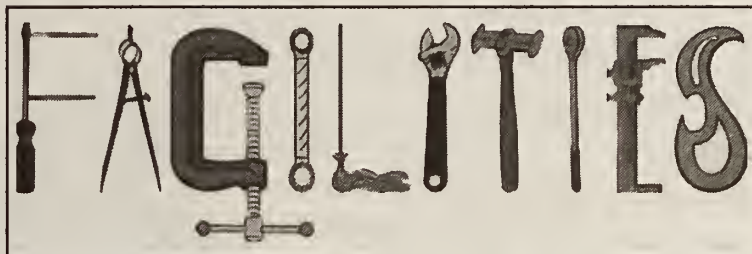
At some point in life, people realize that their mothers aren't there to clean up after them anymore. Dishes, laundry, and bed-making are a part of everyday life. But who takes care of everything else that needs cleaning or fixing here at FSC?

It doesn't take care of itself, that's for sure. That's why there is a hardworking maintenance crew to remedy everything from leaky faucets to power outages. They are the behind the scenes operation that FSC depends on. Without the work they put in to keep this school going, we would be in a messy situation.

Jeff Leary, the maintenance foreman, has been here for 23 years and has truly experienced what it means to work for this department. He even participated in a police stake-out. The culprit didn't beat anyone up or steal books from the bookstore; that would have been far more pleasant to deal with. The perpetrator was down right dirty.

"When I first started here, there was someone we referred to as the phantom [defecator]," Leary said. "He would [defecate] on the bathroom floor in Hammond and cover it up with paper towels." After some serious watching and waiting, the mystery man was unmasked. "The cops found him alright," Leary said with a chuckle. "He walked around all day eating apples, leaving the evidence behind."

Although things like this do occur, the maintenance crew usually has more routine



The Facilities Office is located on the second floor of the Dupont Building. There offices hours are...  
Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm

Phone: 978-665-3115

Fax: 978-665-3682

tasks. "The daily cleanliness of the school and grounds are our main concern. We aren't involved in the residence halls," Leary said. "Before we were separated, I was amazed at some of the conditions places were left in. Mainly the townhouses."

Every other part of campus is kept up by Leary and his 28 member staff. Offices, restrooms, and grounds are among the projects they tackle around the clock. With all this work to get done, and the supplies necessary to do this work, it comes as no surprise that the effects of the budget cuts were felt. "I used to only work on the third floor, but with fewer workers, I now have the fourth floor, too," says Deb Sheldon, a night worker in Hammond. "Everyone has a bigger area to cover."

Not only is there more work, there is less money to go around. "We felt its effects a great deal," Leary said. "Our facilities have dropped by 15 percent, and my employees haven't had a pay raise since 2001."

Downfalls aside, working at a state school has its benefits. "The worker's family has tuition to any of the state

schools in Massachusetts," Leary said. "I have two kids, one at UMass Dartmouth and one at Bridgewater State. For some reason, they didn't want to come hang out with Dad," he laughed.

The complaints people have about FSC don't go unattended. We needed a new recreation center, so one was put in four years ago. The parking situation is a touchy subject, but shuttles have been provided for transportation to a from the Civic Center. Working with what little funds we have, which is often forgotten, FSC has remained a quality school, doing all it can to make all of the students, staff, and faculty happy. Leary even fells things have improved over the years. "I think it's going uphill; the kids are less rowdy and I don't get calls more than once a week about broken windows or fire alarms."

FSC may be in a tough area, and have poor parking opportunities, but is has far more than it is lacking. Good people who care about the appearance and keep up the school do exist, and the maintenance is a large part of that population.



## How To... on a Holiday budget

**STEPHANIE ST. JEAN  
COPY EDITOR**

It's the holiday season again, and if you haven't started your holiday shopping, you probably will soon. If you are like me, you probably don't have a lot of spare money lying around to buy gifts with. Well, you can still buy for everyone on your list and not go broke.

Look for deals everywhere you go. There are always bound to be deals lurking around that aren't necessarily advertised. Don't be afraid of deals, or think that they are cheap. Lots of times, you can find a really great present that's fairly inexpensive.

Go to the sales when the stores open, even if you have to get up at the crack of dawn. Many stores have early bird specials on great gifts, especially clothing stores and electronic stores. Toy stores generally have good deals too, you just have to keep an eye out for them and hit it up the first day.

E-bay is a great place to find gifts you may not be able to find in stores. Also, a lot of times the bidding price is low and if you catch it right as the bid closes it's almost a shoe in

that the item will be yours. E-bay is also a great place to find the rare items that the loved ones on your list may want.

My favorite way of saving money is making my own gifts. It's fairly inexpensive, and a lot more meaningful. I started buying all the materials I needed for my homemade gifts back in August, so now all I have to do is buy the last minute things. I'd say so far for three of my friends I've gotten out under \$20, and I've made them three things.

The last idea I have for you is a little late for this year, but it's something to keep in mind for next year. Shop early. If you happen to be strolling through the mall, or a store in mid July and you see something that you know someone would love, buy it then and save it. Shopping early prevents you from spending too much money all at the same time, and can also save you stress in the end.

I hope that these tips help you save some money this holiday season, and I hope that you and yours have a very happy holiday season.

Thank you to the maintenance crew of Fitchburg State who help keep our campus looking great. Without their help it would be impossible to get around in the winter-time.



# Style with Holly Johnson

## Top 10 Gifts under \$25



Ok, so the holidays are fast approaching us! Time for a little speed shopping:

### Top 10 Gifts under \$25 Gift

1) **Suitable for Anyone** (bosses, co-workers, even grandma!):

**Gift basket:** Gift baskets can be comprised of anything. Line the inside of the basket (any size) with tissue paper, or any other kind of packing material. Place a nice bow on the top. If you want to be fancy buy some shrink wrap at Wal-mart to give the basket a professional touch. (\$1.99) Make a movie basket with two movie gift certificates and a few packs of M&Ms. (around \$15-20) Head to CVS and shop the trial size aisle. Find some shower gels and lotions, throw in the latest copy of Cosmo and you've got yourself a spa basket! Be creative.

2) **Gift suitable for Children & Parents:**

**Cookies a Go-Go:** Combine in a glass canning

jar: (\$2-5 depending on ingredients) your favorite cookie recipe. (Only put in the dry ingredient) Layer each dry ingredient. Cover the closed lid with fabric, and add a little ribbon. Make a small tag to put a top the jar with directions for baking. This is a wonderful gift for children and parents because they can share the activity together!

### 3) Gift Suitable for Anyone:

**Candles:** Candles are a great fool proof gift. They come in a multitude of colors and price ranges. Combine small candles with glass votive holders. (For under \$8)

### 4) Gift Suitable for Teenager: Girl

**Make a pedicure kit.** Buy a large colorful plastic bowl. Fill with tissue paper. Add, nail polish remover, a bag of cotton balls, peppermint tea (to soak the feet!) a file, nail clippers, and 5 of the top nail polish colors. A great gift. (\$20)

### 5) Gift Suitable for Teenager: Boy

**A goody basket:** Find out the boy's favorite junk food and candy. Fill a gift bag full of the goodies. Then include his favorite CD. (\$25)

### 6) Gift Suitable for anyone:

**Plants:** Plants are a great gift. One can purchase orchids at Trader Joes for a mere 12.99! What a beautiful

gift that keeps on giving!

### 7) Gift Suitable for college students:

**Gift certificates to the grocery store!** A great gift we often forget about. Help your student out with a \$25 gift certificate to the grocery store.

### 8) Gift Suitable for parents:

**Framed picture of you!** Here at college we don't do class pictures anymore. No more dorky glasses or haircuts to haunt us for life. Find an on campus photography student looking for a little cash during the holidays and have them take a few black and whites. Frame the picture. Mom and Dad will love it. (\$15-25)

### 9) Gift Suitable for grandparents:

**Take them out to eat:** Grandparents don't want expensive gifts. They just want to spend time with you. Take your grandma out to lunch. (\$25)

### And last but not least:

10) If all else fails a gift certificate is the way to go. You can get them everywhere and give them to anyone!

Remember, the holiday season is not just about giving and receiving, but more so spending time with family and friends.

# Holiday Shopping Guide

**STEPHANIE ST. JEAN**  
**COPY EDITOR**

It's the holiday season again, and I'm sure you have begun shopping. But there will always be someone that will be difficult to shop for. There will always be that one person that you have no idea what to get. I found a website that lists gifts for everyone on your shopping list. I have compiled a list of gifts under \$60 that will please even the pickiest of people. ([www.surprise.com](http://www.surprise.com))

### Kids:

LeapPad, Harry Potter hardcover box set (books 1-5), virtual reality skateboard and snowboard, Dora the Explorer: Magic Friends Singing Dora, Hokey Pokey Elmo.

### Girls/Women:

Slumber party kit, custom cosmetic kits, bath gift set, manicure

### Boys/Men:

Strobe light, tools, video games, electric razor

### All ages, all genders:

Autographs, CD Burner, music shopping spree, gift certificates, cell phone, pager, movie tickets, CD Tower. (and my own favorite that isn't on the website, but what I think is a really great gift) AAA

I hope this small list help you get some ideas for you family and friends this holiday season. Happy Holidays, and happy shopping! (Good luck on finals too!)

THE CLASSES OF 2005, 2006 AND THE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THE FITCHBURG STATE ANNUAL SEMI-FORMAL. JOIN US ON APRIL 29, 2004 ON THE SPIRIT OF BOSTON. TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AFTER THE WINTER BREAK AND ARE EXPECTED TO SELL FAST! DON'T BE LEFT OUT AND GET YOURS EARLY! THERE WILL BE DOOR PRIZES AND RAFFLES ALL NIGHT! DINNER AND TRANSPORTATION ARE ALL INCLUDED! IT WILL BE A NIGHT OF SHI-BBOARD DANCING AND DINING. COME JOIN THE FUN!

Looking for an organization to join? Come to *The Point*

meetings on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Room BC-17 in the

basement of the Hammond Building)



# Weekly Horoscopes

<http://www.astrology-online.com/horo.htm>

## ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)

After all, they may have valuable information to pass on. Travel and learning should be on your agenda this week. You will both have to bend if you want this union to work. You will drive your emotional partner crazy this week.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Monday \*

## TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21)

Your high energy, original ideas, and excellent memory will aid your accomplishments. Resist any idle chatter. Things will be emotional with your mate. You will impress new friends and acquaintances with your intellectual wit.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday \*

## GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Your emotional state could leave you vulnerable and confused. You can offer your mate a commitment or promise that will help stabilize your personal life. You may win favors if you present your ideas and include your

family. Sign up for courses that will bring you more skills.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Sunday \*

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Your generous nature could be taken advantage of. You can make a big difference to children if you are understanding of the difficulties they are experiencing. You will be attracted to unusual forms of entertainment and foreign cultures. You will have an inaccurate assessment of your status in society.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Friday \*

## LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

Think before you act if you wish to avoid friction. Opportunities may come up at prestigious affairs. Communication will be your strong point and you should be able to persuade others to see things your way. You can persuade even the toughest opponents to think your way.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Saturday \*

## VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)

Sudden changes could result in estrangement's. Emotional relationships will be plentiful if you attend group activities. It may not be the best day to confront employers or to present your ideas. Don't spend too much on products that promise amazing cosmetic results.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Sunday \*

## LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)

People trying to entice you to join in will be less than trustworthy. You can come up with solutions to the problems responsible for inefficiencies at work. Arguments with relatives may lead to a split in the family. Your willingness to help others can and will lead to fatigue if you don't learn to say no.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday \*

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

A change in position could be better than you thought. Someone may be trying to damage your reputation. Get involved in creative projects that could turn into moneymaking ventures. You will have a tendency to exaggerate, which will lead to major confrontations with loved ones.

\*Your lucky day this week will be Saturday \*

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

Mingle with those who can help you get ahead. Be prepared to lose friends or alienate loved ones due to your stubborn nature lately. A female colleague may cause problems for you. Start sending out those resumes.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Sunday \*

## CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

New romantic partners will evolve through group endeavors; however, the association may not be likely to last. You may not be able to help, but your support will be favorable. Strong willpower will come to your rescue. Try not to allow your partner to lead you astray or upset your routine.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday \*

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

Small business ventures can earn you extra cash. Travel will enhance romance and adventure. Rewards for past good deeds will highlight your day. You need to get out if you want to meet potential partners.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday \*

## PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Sign up for courses that will bring you more skills. You will be prone to carelessness that could result in accidents. Don't get upset. You are likely to be left alone if you aren't willing to bend just a little.

\* Your lucky day this week will be Monday \*

## Fun Puzzles of the week

### Oxymorons...

Almost exactly	Great Depression	Original copy
Alone together	Guest host	Paid volunteer
American English	Hell's Angels	Press release
Awfully good	Highly underestimated	Pretty ugly
Bad luck	Holy war	Pronounced silence
Bittersweet	Homeless shelter	Random order
Black light	Ill health	Real potential
Blank expression	Include me out	Rock opera
Clearly confused	Industrial park	Rolling stop
Cold comfort	Intense apathy	Short distance
Constant change	Job security	Skinny broad
Cowardly lion	Jumbo shrimp	Still moving
Criminal Justice	Least favorite	Sweet sorrow
Deafening silence	Little giant	Taped live
Death benefits	Live recording	Terribly pleased
Definite maybe	Loosely packed	Tight slacks
Dynamic equilibrium	Make haste slowly	True Lies
Eyes Wide Shut	Managed competition	True story
Even odds	Mild abrasive	Unacceptable solution
Exact estimate	Minor crisis	Unbiased opinion
Extinct life	Non-alcoholic beer	Uncrowned king
Fairly dark	Non-working mother	United Nations
Flu Bug	Nothing much	Unsung hero
Forgotten memories	Numb feeling	Vaguely aware
Friendly fire	Oddly appropriate	Virtual Reality
Front end	Old news	War games
Genuine imitation	Only choice	Wholesome
Good grief	Open secret	Working vacation



# Red Sox's Grady Little vs. Terry Francona

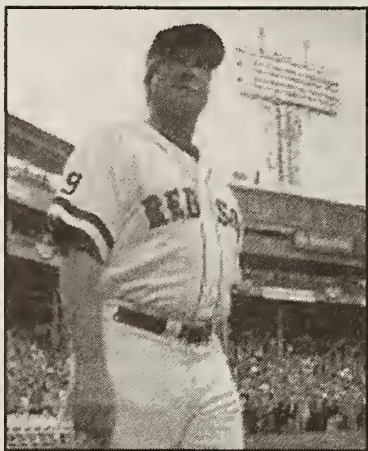
**DAN MISTRETTA**  
**STAFF REPORTER**

Should Grady Little have been fired? I agree that he should have, but there are people who totally disagree with me. There are many different factors that ultimately led to him being fired, but many people believe it was the move he made in the playoffs, when he left Pedro Martinez in the game too long. Naming Terry Francona as manager moves the Red Sox forward, but the argument over Grady Little goes on.

Grady Little made a lot of moves over the course of the season that led to him being released by upper management. Whether it was leaving a pitcher in too long or sitting the wrong player during a game, Grady did this and did it too often. Many times he made the wrong decision, but the players went through with playing and ended up making it look like it was the right decision.

On numerous occasions, former manager Little would sit a player that was on a hitting streak. He would say it was just his time to take a break or he did not play well against the opposing pitcher. Now in my opinion, Grady did this too many times this season.

For instance, in one game he sat David Ortiz, who was



Grady Little (left), former Red Sox coach was fired on October 27, 2003. He was replaced by Terry Francona (right), who was given a three-year contract with an option for a forth.



playing some unbelievable baseball. At the time, Ortiz was hitting everything that they threw to him. Grady did not care, obviously, and he sat Ortiz because his stats were not very good against the pitcher that night. Now, if you have a guy who is hitting everything coming to him, you should not even look at the stat sheet; it should just be automatic to play him.

Another thing that Grady did over the season, or should I say didn't do over the season, was having a set lineup. Every time you would look there would be someone new in the lineup. Grady believed that rotating players was the best way to confuse his opponents. This strategy, I believe, worked against them. Players

constantly had to adjust to someone different in the field and could never get a feel for what they were going to do.

Take for example, the second baseman. Little was always bouncing back and forth between Todd Walker and Damien Jackson. Now, the rest of the infield had to adjust to who they were playing with so they could communicate without talking. Players, overtime, get a feel for what the others are going to do and so with the constant changing, they never know what the others were going to do.

One of the other things that led to Little being fired would have to be leaving pitchers in too long or taking the wrong guy out of the

bullpen. Many times over the season, Little would leave his starting pitcher on one inning too long so he could avoid going to the bullpen. This plan of his backfired many times.

One-time starting pitcher Derek Lowe loaded the bases in the seventh inning, gave up a couple of runs and then came back out for the eighth inning. I mean, come on – obviously he was tired or lost his pitch control and should have come out. Little kept in him, though, and they ended up losing the game.

Then in other games he would go to the bullpen and take the wrong guy. In the playoffs, when we were facing the Athletics, he went to Williamson three games in a row. The first two games he shut them down, but the third game they beat up on him. Common sense would say that they knew what he was going to pitch and they were ready for him this time.

All of these are what I think led to him being fired, but many players on the team felt like he should have stayed. Many players felt like what he did behind the scenes was more important than what he did on the field. Players said that they never have played for a team that was so together before.

Many of them said that Little was the heart and soul of the team and that he held everyone together. Fans of Little also agree with the players.

Little's fans felt that the Skipper was mistreated. They believed Little was being released because he made one bad choice in a critical moment. They felt like he should have been looking at for what he did to the team over the season and not what he did in a single game. They felt he was cheated out of his job over something so stupid.

I beg to differ. Many people did not look back at what he did over the whole season because if they did, they would have seen the same mistakes that I did. Too many people blame upper management for basing their opinion on that one game.

I, on the other hand, think that what they did was right. He made too many mistakes over the season and that cost the team too many losses. Losses that could have been wins and could have led to a first-round bye in the playoffs and perhaps playing a different team with a much better outcome. People have to look at everything and not just one thing when they are making a decision. The Red Sox did just that.

## Fitchburg State's All Conference athletes

Please join the Athletic Department in congratulating our sixteen student-athletes who were named All-Conference this fall in balloting conducted by league coaches.

### Football

**Brian Harnish** - First Team All-NEFC  
**Treavor Smith** - First Team All-NEFC

**Carld Auguste** - Second Team All-NEFC  
**Frank Famularo** - Honorable Mention All-NEFC  
**Dan Rice** - Honorable Mention All-NEFC  
**Carmy Cesaire** - Honorable Mention All-NEFC

### Men's Soccer

**Tim Pinto** - First Team All-MASCAC

**Peter McGuane** - First Team All-MASCAC  
**Dana Jennings** - Second Team All-MASCAC

### Field Hockey

**Jen Currier** - First Team All-MASCAC  
**Serena St. George** - First Team All-MASCAC  
**Juli O'Connor** - Second Team All-MASCAC

**Sarah Peltokantas** - Second Team All-MASCAC

### Men's Cross Country

**Ryan Miller** - All-MASCAC - 2nd Place and All New England Alliance - 4th place  
**Danny Savukoski** - All-MASCAC - 3rd Place and All New England Alliance - 10th Place  
**Matt Germain** - All-MASCAC

CAC - 6th Place and All New England Alliance - 13th place

CONGRATULATIONS  
to those athletes  
who won!!!